

**Statement on Signing the Military Construction Appropriations Act, 2002**  
*November 5, 2001*

Today I have signed into law H.R. 2904, the “Military Construction Appropriations Act, 2002,” which provides \$10.5 billion for military construction and family housing programs administered by the Department of Defense.

I appreciate the bipartisan effort that has gone into producing this Act. The Act abides by the agreed upon aggregate funding level for Fiscal Year 2002 of \$686 billion and funds the vast majority of my request for military construction projects, the military housing program, and other projects for our military personnel and their families. The requested projects are critical to supporting military readiness and the quality of life for our soldiers. My Administration showed its commitment to improving the quality of housing available to our military personnel and their families by including an additional \$400 million in the FY 2002 Budget. I want to thank the Congress for including it in this bill. However, I am disappointed that the bill includes a 1.127 percent general reduction, and a re-

scission of \$55 million from the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization.

As America battles terrorism, we must ensure that our men and women in uniform live in, train at, and deploy from adequate facilities. This bill shows our commitment to our service members by constructing and upgrading military installations, and military family housing in the United States and overseas.

My Administration appreciates that the Congress has worked expeditiously during this difficult and trying time in our Nation’s history to consider the FY 2002 appropriations bills. Now, through a renewed sense of bipartisanship, the Congress and my Administration must work together to ensure the timely enactment of the remaining bills.

GEORGE W. BUSH

The White House,  
November 5, 2001.

NOTE: H.R. 2904, approved November 5, was assigned Public Law No. 107–64.

**Letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives on Emergency Response Funding To Address Consequences of the September 11 Terrorist Attacks**  
*November 5, 2001*

*Dear Mr. Speaker:*

In accordance with provisions of Public Law 107–38, the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Recovery from and Response to Terrorist Attacks on the United States, FY 2001, today I have authorized transfers from the Emergency Response Fund totaling \$902 million for emergency recovery and response and national security activities listed in the enclosed letter from the Deputy Director of

the Office of Management and Budget. As provided in Public Law 107–38, \$900 million of these funds will be made available to agencies 15 days from the date of this transmittal and \$2.3 million will be made available to the Department of the Treasury immediately.

These funds are in addition to the \$8.8 billion that I previously authorized for transfer and will allow our Government to

continue to address the consequences arising from the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

I urge the Congress to enact without delay the \$20 billion in critical defense and domestic needs that I requested on October 17th. My Administration does not intend to seek additional supplemental funding for either domestic or defense needs for the remainder of this session of Congress.

The details of these actions are set forth in the enclosed letter from the Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget. I concur with his comments and observations.

Sincerely,

GEORGE W. BUSH

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this letter.

### Satellite Remarks to the Central European Counterterrorism Conference *November 6, 2001*

Well, thank you very much, Mr. President. It is a real pleasure to be back in Warsaw, this time by telecast. I had a wonderful visit to the region in June, and I know I'm among friends today.

I thank all the nations of Central and Eastern Europe at this conference. You are our partners in the fight against terrorism, and we share an important moment in history.

For more than 50 years, the peoples of your region suffered under repressive ideologies that tried to trample human dignity. Today, our freedom is threatened once again. Like the Fascists and totalitarians before them, these terrorists—Al Qaida, the Taliban regime that supports them, and other terror groups across our world—try to impose their radical views through threats and violence. We see the same intolerance of dissent, the same mad global ambitions, the same brutal determination to control every life and all of life.

We have seen the true nature of these terrorists in the nature of their attacks. They kill thousands of innocent people and then rejoice about it. They kill fellow Muslims, many of whom died in the World Trade Center that terrible morning, and then they gloat. They condone murder and

claim to be doing so in the name of a peaceful religion.

We have also seen the true nature of these terrorists in the nature of the regime they support in Afghanistan, and it's terrifying. Women are imprisoned in their homes and are denied access to basic health care and education. Food sent to help starving people is stolen by their leaders. The religious monuments of other faiths are destroyed. Children are forbidden to fly kites or sing songs or build snowmen. A girl of 7 is beaten for wearing white shoes. Our enemies have brought only misery and terror to the people of Afghanistan, and now they are trying to export that terror throughout the world.

Al Qaida operates in more than 60 nations, including some in Central and Eastern Europe. These terrorist groups seek to destabilize entire nations and regions. They are seeking chemical, biological, and nuclear weapons. Given the means, our enemies would be a threat to every nation and eventually to civilization, itself.

So we're determined to fight this evil and fight until we're rid of it. We will not wait for more innocent deaths. We will not wait for the authors of mass murder to gain the weapons of mass destruction. We act now because we must lift this dark